



City of Seattle

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Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor  
**Department of Design, Construction and Land Use**  
D. M. Sugimura, Director

**CITY OF SEATTLE  
ANALYSIS AND DECISION OF THE DIRECTOR  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND LAND USE**

**Application Number:** 2301311  
**Applicant Name:** Brad Decker  
**Address of Proposal:** 6616 Corson Ave S

**SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ACTION**

Master Use Permit to subdivide one parcel of land into four unit lots. This subdivision of property is only for the purpose of allowing sale or lease of the unit lots. Development standards will be applied to the original parcel and not to each of the new unit lots. The construction of townhouses has been issued under separate project #2208288 & 2207227.

The following approval is required:

**Short Subdivision** - To divide one parcel of land into four unit lots.  
(Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 23.24)

**SEPA DETERMINATION:** ☒ Exempt ☐ DNS ☐ MDNS ☐ EIS

☐ DNS with conditions

☐ DNS involving non-exempt grading,  
or demolition, or another agency with jurisdiction.

**BACKGROUND DATA**

Site Description

The proposal site is approximately 5,445 square feet and is located in a Multi-Family Residential Lowrise 2 zone (L2) on Corson Avenue South between South Warsaw Street and South Willow Street. Corson Avenue South is a two-lane paved street with curbs, gutters and sidewalks on both sides.

The site abuts a 20-foot wide platted alley which is improved. The site was previously developed with a single-family residence with a detached garage. The lot has approximately 45-feet of street frontage along Corson Avenue South and has access from the paved alley. Site vegetation includes grass and shrubs. The site is mapped as liquefaction prone, which is a City of Seattle Environmentally Critical Area (ECA).

### Area Development

Zoning and development in the vicinity is mixed between multi-family and single-family, but is characterized largely by the Multi-Family Residential Lowrise 2 (L-2) encompassing the block in which the site is located. On the west side of Corson Avenue South, the area is zoned Industrial Buffer U/65 (IB U/65). To the north is an area designated as Lowrise 2 Residential Commercial (L-2 R/C). In combination, these areas are developed with single-family and multi-family structures.

### Proposal Description

The applicant proposes to subdivide one parcel of land into four unit lots. Proposed unit lot sizes are: A) 1,361.8 square feet, B) 1,361.8 square feet, C) 1,361.8 square feet; and D) 1,361.8 square feet. DCLU Project #2208288, to demolish the existing single family structure, establish use as and construct (1) two-unit townhouse with parking has been issued. Project #2207227 to demolish the existing detached garage and establish use as townhouse and construct a three-story duplex with attached garage has been issued as well. Required vehicle access for the four unit lots is proposed off of the adjacent alley through an existing ingress/egress easement to the south.

### Public Comments

The public comment period for the proposed project ended on April 9, 2003 and no comments were received.

## **ANALYSIS - SHORT SUBDIVISION**

Pursuant to SMC 23.24.040, no short subdivision shall be approved unless all of the following facts and conditions are found to exist. The findings which follow are based upon information provided by the applicant; review of access, drainage and zoning within the Department of Design, Construction and Land Use (DCLU), review from Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle Fire Department and Seattle City Light, and review by the Land Use Planner.

### *1. Conformance to the applicable Land Use Code provisions;*

The existing parent lot subject to this subdivision conforms to all development standards of the L-2 zone. The parent lot configuration provides adequate buildable area to meet applicable density, setbacks, lot coverage requirements and other land use code development standards. The unit lots proposed by this subdivision conform to the standards for unit lot subdivisions (SMC 23.24.045) and other code provisions applicable to unit lot subdivisions. Any new development must conform to code requirements at the time of application.

2. *Adequacy of access for vehicles, utilities and fire protection as provided in Section 23.53.005;*

Vehicular access to each of the parcels will be from an existing ingress/egress easement through the property to the south via the alley. All of the parcels would obtain shared access to the subject site from the easement. The existing 20-foot-wide platted alley is paved and is considered to be improved per SMC 23.53.030; therefore alley access is required. Pedestrian access to the unit lots would be obtained from the street via a pedestrian access easement along the north property line. In order to assure that the use and maintenance responsibilities associated with the common areas are clear, the applicant/responsible party will be required to record an easement maintenance agreement with the final short plat.

The Seattle Fire Department has reviewed the proposed lot configuration with regard to fire protection and emergency vehicle access and has no objection. No improvements were requested by the Fire Department.

Seattle City Light provides electrical service to the subject property and has indicated an easement is required. The easement identified in the Seattle City Light memorandum, dated April 1, 2003, and "Exhibit A to the City of Seattle Short Subdivision Number 2301311" shall be included on the final plat prior to recording.

As conditioned, this short plat provides for adequate access for vehicles, utilities, and fire protection.

3. *Adequacy of water supply, sanitary sewage disposal, and drainage;*

*Sanitary Sewer:* The existing structure is connected by means of a single sidesewer to a 15-inch public combined sewer (PS) located in Corson Avenue South.

*Drainage:* The PS will be the appropriate point for stormwater discharge. If the project includes greater than 5000 square feet of new or replaced impervious surface, a comprehensive drainage control plan prepared in accordance with SMC 22.802.015D and 22.802.020 is required.

Seattle Public Utilities reviewed the unit lot subdivision application and approved a Water Availability Certificate, No. 03-0280 on March 24, 2003. All conditions on the certificate must be met prior to receiving water service.

4. *Whether the public use and interests are served by permitting the proposed division of land;*

The proposed unit lot subdivision meets the minimum provisions of the Seattle Land Use Code. The proposal meets all applicable criteria for approval of a short plat as discussed in this analysis and decision. Address signage shall be posted such that addresses for all units are visible from Corson Avenue South. An easement or covenant shall be recorded with the final plat to ensure that the address signage is maintained. The public use and interests are served by permitting the proposed division of land.

5. *Conformance to the applicable provisions of SMC Section 25.09.240, short subdivision and subdivisions in environmentally critical areas;*

The site is mapped as liquefaction prone, which is a City of Seattle Environmentally Critical Area.

6. *Is designed to maximize the retention of existing trees;*

Not applicable, as the development of the subject site is permitted by approval of the associated building permit.

7. *Conformance to the provisions of Section 23.24.045, Unit lot subdivisions, when the short subdivision is for the purpose of creating separate lots of record for the construction and/or transfer of title of townhouses, cottage housing, clustered housing, or single-family housing.*

Section 23.24.045 of the Seattle Municipal Code provides that under certain circumstances some types of parcels may be created that do not individually meet the zoning requirements for lot size, setbacks, density, and structure width and depth. These are called unit lot subdivisions and may be permitted as long as the development as a whole meets development standards. However, as a result of this subdivision, development on the individual lots may be non-conforming. To assure that future owners have constructive notice that additional development may be limited due to nonconformities, the following statement shall be required to be included as a note on the final short subdivision: "The unit lots shown on this site are not separate buildable lots. Additional development on any individual unit lot in this subdivision may be limited as a result of the application of development standards to the parent lot pursuant to applicable provisions of the Seattle Land Use Code, Chapter 23 of the Seattle Municipal Code."

## **DECISION - SHORT SUBDIVISION**

The proposed Short Subdivision is **CONDITIONALLY GRANTED**.

## **CONDITIONS - SHORT SUBDIVISION**

### **Prior to Recording**

The owner(s) and responsible party(s) shall:

1. Provide final recording forms and fees. Have the final recording documents prepared by or under the supervision of a Washington State licensed land surveyor. Each lot, parcel or tract created by the short subdivision shall be surveyed in the field and all property corners set in conformance with appropriate state statute. The property corners set shall be identified on the plat and encroachments such as side yard easements, fences or structures shall be shown, as well as all structures and distances from them to the proposed property lines. All existing structures, principal and accessory, shall be shown

on the face of the plat and their distances to the proposed property lines dimensioned. A licensed surveyor shall stamp the short plat drawings.

2. The Seattle City Light easement described in the Seattle City Light memorandum dated April 1, 2003 and "Exhibit A to City of Seattle Short Subdivision No. 2301311" shall be included on the final plat prior to recording.
3. Insert the following on the face of the plat: "The unit lots shown on this site are not separate buildable lots. Additional development on any individual unit lot in this subdivision may be limited as a result of the application of development standards to the parent lot pursuant to applicable provisions of the Seattle Land Use Code, Chapter 23 of the Seattle Municipal Code."
4. Provide an easement or covenant with the final plat to ensure that address signage for each unit lot is provided and maintained in a location visible from Corson Avenue South.
5. Provide a joint maintenance and responsibility agreement for maintenance and use of shared walls on property lines and all ingress, egress and utility easements.

Signature: (signature on file) Date: April 17, 2003  
Bryan C. Stevens, Land Use Planner  
Department of Design, Construction and Land Use  
Land Use Services

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